

Ski Trails

The monthly newsletter for Suburban Ski Club

June 2017

Website: <http://www.suburbanskiclub.org>

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Suburban Ski Club Members,

I am writing to you with exciting news about some upcoming events for our club. There are several social events planned for this summer. Later this month, **John Hersch** will be our host for an EAT at Spice Kitchen and, in July, **Cindy Bacon** has arranged for a bike ride on the Towpath followed by lunch. In August, **Ann McBrian** is again taking us back to Blossom for a concert preceded by a picnic. We may also add another event or two but, for now, please check out the Calendar in this newsletter for the details on the events I have mentioned.

While social events are fun get-togethers, it is the news about next season's skiing program which I am most excited to share with you. The Executive Board has had two meetings in which most of the business discussed was the 2018 ski calendar. After considering many options, the EB made some decisions and empowered the Trips and Tours Committee to work out the details.

We are planning **two major western trips** and a **third major trip to the east**. In addition, to be faithful to our club's motto, "We Ski Every Week," the EB decided to again develop an extensive bus trip program that will feature at least one overnight trip. **Melinda Kellerstrass** and **Beth Silverman** are the co-Chairs of our Trips and Tours Committee. Melinda's responsibility is the bus program while Beth has taken on the two western trips. Melinda will have some news about the 2018 bus program in our July issue of [Ski Trails](#), but Beth has news for you in this issue about our western trips. Please see her article later in these pages.

Frank Bolon and **Joe Sullivan** are again teaming up to devise our third major adventure, the 2018 Eastern Trip. See their article in this newsletter for details on that trip.

We need to thank our beloved Lilly Kron for the EAT she hosted at Das Schnitzel Haus on May 21st. Many SSC members enjoyed the food, and the socializing that went along with it, on the outdoor patio.

I hope you are as excited about the 2018 ski season as I am, and I also hope to see you at our summer events.

Becky Marx, President of SSC
president@suburbanskiclub.org

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

This is another edition of our series recognizing the birthdays of SSC members. Don't worry, we do not publish the year of your birth, just the month and day! Our data base of birthdays is far from complete. Please remember to include your birthday on your membership form. It is not necessary to give the year of your birth, but we need your day and month so we can publish your birthday. Here are the June birthdays we have on file:

Tom Bartlo (6/16), Susan Billow (6/19), Frances Bluhm (6/11), Michele Boim (6/22), Sherry Clifton (6/3), Elliott Drysdale (6/6), Colette Gschwind (6/17), June Kelley (6/29), Angela Matousek (6/8), Sandy Maurer (6/23), Greg Norton (6/6), George Novotney (6/25), Kathryn Porcen-Robinson (6/5), Dave Rock (6/20), Robert Stern (6/28), Joe Sullivan (6/21), Wendy Summers (6/28) and Ben Wentz (6/9)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to you all.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

June - August 2017

- ***SOCIAL:*** Friday, June 9, 9 PM: Rich Lowe at Coyote
- ***SOCIAL:*** Tuesday, June 13, 6:00 PM: EAT at Spice Kitchen and Bar
- ***SOCIAL:*** Sunday, July 16: Bike Ride on the Tow Path and Lunch
- ***SOCIAL:*** Saturday, August 26, 8:00 PM: Picnic and Concert at Blossom

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MORE DETAIL

Friday, June 9, 9:00 PM to Midnight: Rich Lowe Band at Coyote

SSC member, Rich Lowe and his band, are back again at Coyote Mexican Grill and Cantina in Chagrin Falls. For details check the flyer attached to the Email that brought this newsletter.

Tuesday, June 13, 6:00 PM: EAT at Spice Kitchen and Bar

John and Susan Hersch will be our hosts for this EAT. Here are some details supplied by the Hersches:

Spice Kitchen & Bar is located at 5800 Detroit Avenue in the Gordon Square District. The restaurant takes pride in local sourcing, seasonal specialties and innovative cocktails. You are invited to check out the menu for dinner and happy hour at www.spicekitchenandbar.com. The menu changes frequently but our experience has always been positive. The décor and friendly service will enhance your dining experience.

The web site includes a video of the restaurant's farm in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, interviews with the farmers and chefs, and an explanation of how the farm's production is integrated with the food preparation. It features their fresh produce, contented hens and pigs. We will meet for drinks at 6:00 PM with a sit-down dinner at 7:00. Happy hour runs from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Reservation deadline is Friday, June 9th. Contact John Hersch by phone at (216) 577-5370 or send an Email to johnhersch@yahoo.com

Sunday, July 16: Bike Ride on the Towpath and Lunch



Bike the Trail, Ride the Rail, Lunch at the Lizard

On **Sunday July 16th, 2017** join Suburban Ski Club members, friends & families for a scenic bike ride on the Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Eire Canal Towpath. The path is an easy ride on a mostly flat surface, composed of asphalt or crushed limestone.

The Towpath runs parallel to the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. There are multiple stations along the route where you can jump on the train with your bike for a special one-way ride back to Peninsula for only \$3 per person.

Our plan is for us to start in Peninsula in the morning, ride as far as you wish and either ride back to Peninsula or take the train back to that location. We will all meet for lunch at 1 pm at the Peninsula Winking Lizard. Everyone will then be responsible for their own lunch and beverage.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Cindy Bacon at cindykirmm@att.net or her cell: 216-409-6570. Your confirmation will be requested by July 10th so we can give the Winking Lizard a headcount.

There will be more details in the July issue of the newsletter. For now, put the date on your calendar and feel free to contact Cindy for more information.

Here are some links to the Towpath and Chagrin Valley Scenic Railroad websites:

www.cvsr.com

www.ohioanderiecanalway.com

Sunday, August 26: Picnic & Concert at Blossom Music Center

Suburban Ski Club
at

BLOSSOM
MUSIC FESTIVAL
Summer Home of
The Cleveland Orchestra

Saturday, August 26, 2017



Pre-Concert Picnic: 4:30 PM

Ann McBrian will again be our host for this annual visit to Blossom and we will be gathering at an area called the *LAWN TERRACE*—located at the top of the hill centered above the pavilion. You can bring your own food or order some through Ann.

Concert: 8:00 PM

The evening features the Cleveland Orchestra conducted by Cristian Macelaru with Augustin Hadelich on violin and the Women of the Blossom Festival Chorus. The program includes Dvorak's Violin Concerto and Holst's The Planets.

For Information:

Please contact Ann McBrian at: mcbriana@gmail.com or 330-618-8450

Editor's Note: Details about tickets and ordering food via Ann will be provided in the July issue of Ski Trails.

THE MAJOR TRIPS FOR THE 2018 SKI SEASON

Western Trips:

We are planning two western trips for 2018. As we go to press, I am excited to report that our Executive Board approved a trip to **Snowmass/Aspen the week of January 13 - 20, 2018**. The second trip will be in March, probably the second week. No final decision has been made but I can say we have our eye on another Canadian destination.

Many club members expressed their opinion that we should return to Aspen in 2018. So, that destination was an easy choice as long as we could come up with a package that was reasonable – and we were able to do that. We did have a lively debate about where should stay. Some members favored staying in Aspen and taking a shuttle to the four ski areas (Snowmass, Aspen Mountain, Aspen Highlands and Buttermilk). Others argued that we should lodge at Snowmass, which offers the most diverse ski terrain and would accommodate all of our skiers. But when our tour operator was able to hook us up with true ski-in/ski-out lodging at Snowmass, that settled the argument and we just couldn't pass it up. So, we will be staying at Snowmass and the shuttle will be available to take us to the three other ski areas.

Our friends at Chagrin Valley Ski Club made this Snowmass trip last season and they stayed at the same lodging we have booked. They reported it was one of the best ski trips they had ever experienced. That's high praise.

As I wrote above, our March destination is still under consideration but there is one resort that has caught our attention, **Sun Peaks in British Columbia**. It may not be well known to some of you but it is Canada's second largest ski resort, known for its fresh powder and over 4,200 acres of skiable terrain. This past season our group went to Banff/Lake Louise and we all decided that Canada should become a regular destination for our club. And with the Canadian-US Dollar exchange rate squarely in our favor, now is the time to do it again. Our tour operator is currently researching air fares and if she is successful in finding something reasonable, we could be offering this trip at a lower price than Aspen. This would not only give our skiers a choice of destinations but would also allow them to choose a trip that fits their budgets.

We hope to have our ski trip plans finalized over the next two weeks. The January trip to Aspen is almost a done deal and once we have an airfare quote for a March trip to Canada, we will be able to make a decision on that destination. When we have the exact price for each trip and have worked out some other details, we will be producing trip flyers for each trip and sending them out to SSC members. Stay tuned!

Beth Silverman
Co-Chair, Trips and Tours

The Eastern Trip:

We are very happy to tell you we will be traveling east again this year. This time we have opted for a shorter bus ride but to an area that is not short on great skiing. We will be going to **Killington, Vermont** on **February 11 – 17, 2018**. As usual, it will be an all-inclusive trip at a bargain price. The exact cost will be announced shortly in a trip flyer but we are confident we can hold the price under \$1000. The package includes 6 nights lodging; lift tickets for 5 days; 6 dinners and 5 hot breakfast buffets; a welcoming wine & cheese reception; luxury motor coach transportation and more.

Killington and sister resort, Pico Mountain, comprise one of the largest ski areas in the east, composed of 6 peaks, an elevation of 4241 feet and a 3000 foot, vertical drop. They offer skiing and snowboarding on 200 slopes and trails, great cruising terrain along with tree and mogul skiing and other challenging runs. Snowmaking covers 72% of the terrain and consistently provides great conditions. There are 28 lifts, including 2 gondolas and 9 high speed express quads accessing 1977 acres of skiable terrain.

But even though one could spend all their time at Killington and Pico and still leave trails not seen, we also will be traveling to nearby **Okemo** for a day. Okemo spans five distinct alpine areas with 121 trails and glades with 667 acres of skiable terrain. It features a remarkable 98% snowmaking coverage with 32% Novice, 36 % Intermediate and 31% Advanced/Expert trails. Included in the 20 lifts is a high-speed bubble chair with heated seats and four high-speed quads.

So, the destination and the dates are all set for this trip but, as we go to press, a few details about pricing need to be finalized. However, those details don't involve major dollars and it is simply a matter of deciding on a price point somewhere in the \$900s. Wherever the final pricing, this major trip is going to feature some great skiing at an all-inclusive cost that is very affordable.

Watch for a formal announcement and flyer that will be forthcoming in a matter of days. Please sign up to join us on this wonderful eastern adventure.

Frank Bolon & Joe Sullivan

Editor's Note: Last week, your editor made a scouting expedition to Killington to check out the lodging and ski areas for the 2018 Eastern Trip. He came away with a very positive impression and an opinion that this trip will be a great one. On the day he arrived, he noticed snow up on one of the mountains. The next morning, he drove up an access road to the snowy slope and arrived at an operating lift with about a dozen skiers coming down the trail. The date was May 26th !!! Check out the photo on the next page and, if you look very carefully, you may be able to spot a skier in the bottom right corner.

